

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) A system for distributing movies to customer households, wherein a user station is disposed at each customer household, each said user station including means permitting the customer household to preselect desired transmitted movies for recording, a receiver and associated recording device at each customer household for recording preselected movies at a write speed faster than real time, and a playback device for playing back those preselected, recorded movies, the system comprising:

a direct broadcast satellite (DBS) data transmission system configured for blanket transmitting a plurality of encoded movies to customer households at a data transmission rate faster than real time;

~~a user station at each customer household, the user station including means permitting the customer household to preselect desired transmitted movies for recording;~~

~~a receiver and associated recording device at each customer household for recording preselected movies at a write speed faster than real time;~~

~~a playback device at each customer household for playing back those preselected, recorded movies that the customer household desires to view;~~

a central controller system having a database ~~for~~ storing therein an address corresponding to each customer household;

a mechanism configured to communicate with each user station ~~communications link between each customer household and the central controller system~~ to verify to the controller system that a preselected, recorded movie has been played back for viewing; and

a billing system associated with the central controller system to bill customer households for only those preselected, recorded movies that are played back for viewing; wherein during prime time viewing hours at least certain high demand movies are each transmitted at short intervals at eight to ten times real time or faster, so that a high demand movie is made ~~may be~~

available for viewing within no more than the interval time plus a transmission/recording time on the order of 11 to 14 minutes or less.

16. (Original) The system of claim 15 wherein the recording device at the customer household has a write speed capability on the order of 12 megabits/sec or greater.

17. (Original) The system of claim 16 wherein the recording device at the customer household comprises a magneto-optical device.

18. (Original) The system of claim 15 wherein the recording device at the customer household has a write speed capable of recording movies at VHS resolution at eight to ten times real time or faster.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Original) The system of claim 15 wherein the user station includes a memory buffer for processing preselected movie data before it is recorded at the customer household.

21. (Original) The system of claim 20 wherein the memory buffer includes a drive selected from the group consisting of magnetic drive, optical drive and magneto-optical drive.

22. (Original) The system of claim 20 wherein the memory buffer includes memory means selected from the group consisting of DRAM, flash memory, SRAM and digital tape.

23-24. (Canceled)